

13th June, 1974

Howard Adams telephoned.

Said that in New York he had discussed with IBM the financial support they were giving the National Gallery for the Chinese Exhibition, and that Adams asked IBM whether or not they would be interested, should they be requested, in supporting the Exhibition in Kansas City.

I gather that Adams has a letter from IBM stating that they would, indeed, be interested to the extent of \$25,000 to \$50,000 in acting as sponsors.

The question now is should IBM donate \$50,000, would this be matching funds against the grant from the NEH, or would it be a donation to the Nelson Gallery Foundation. This question will be put to Mr. Lacy.

13th June, 1974

Sickman telephoned David Morton, Chairman, Mo. State Council on the Arts

It was Morton's feeling that the State Council should vigorously support the Exhibition and that he hoped they might be able to earmark or set aside, pending an application for grant in aid, a sum of approximately \$50,000. This could be used, according to Morton, not only for educational projects in the state of Missouri, but also for such costs of the Exhibition as the catalogue, etc. He advised that Sickman at an early date, telephone Mrs. Emily Rice, Executive Secretary, in St. Louis, and recommended that at least a letter of intent, if not a direct request for a grant, be sent as early as possible, because a meeting of the Council is set for the 21st of June.

June 14, 1974.

Laurence Sickman called Howard Adams.

Howard Adams' definite impression was that IBM wanted to give their gratuity to the Nelson Gallery Foundation, not to the National Endowment for the Humanities.

June 17th, 1974.

Laurence Sickman called Charles Hill.

Talked to Charles Hill about the premature announcement in the Kansas City Star regarding the Chinese Exhibition. Mr. Hill said they would just tell the Chinese that in America we have a free press, and we cannot account for what appears in the papers.

Mr. Hill asked for a softbound copy of the Handbook, a Xerox of the article in the Star, and a statement of temperature and humidity control, fire prevention, and security, from Sherwood Songer.

Telephone call from Alex Lacy, June 21st, 1974.

Mr. Lacy said that there were a number of problems concerning the whole project which are still pending, but he hoped that they would be resolved by Tuesday or Wednesday of next week.

He would like to delay his visit to Kansas City until these matters are clarified, and consequently he will postpone his visit to Kansas City until the following week. He set a tentative date of July 1st.

He related that great difficulties are being experienced in Canada. When a mock-up of the catalogue was submitted to the Chinese Embassy in Ottawa, certain changes were made, and the mock-up returned with the OK of the Ambassador. The catalogue was then printed at a cost of \$150,000 and a few days later, the Chinese delegation with the exhibition presented a rather different mock-up, and maintained that the printed catalogue would not do.

Pan-American air lines has offered to transport the exhibition from Kansas City to Peking without charge. They have also offered to transport the exhibition free of charge from Toronto to Washington and Washington to Kansas City. The National Gallery, however, is unhappy about this arrangement and would prefer to pay the transportation from Toronto to Washington, inasmuch as the Washington exhibition is being sponsored by IBM, and they feel it would be awkward to have Pan-American as a second sponsor. This is another question which must be resolved.

Lacy said that any scholarly lectures delivered at the Gallery must be cleared by the Chinese commission. Lectures given in other auditoriums in the city, not in the Gallery, do not require their approval.

27th June. Telephone call from Howard Adams.

1974

Thursday morning, a call from Howard Adams. He suggests we write to Mr. Hollister of IBM, who has expressed to Mr. Adams the willingness of IBM to finance the Chinese Exhibition with sums up to between \$25,000 and \$50,000. There is a question whether or not NEH would wish this IBM grant given to the Endowment rather than to the Nelson Gallery Foundation as matching funds against the Endowments grant. Both Mr. Adams and I feel it would be most desirable if the grant could be made directly to the Foundation to compensate for the sums pledged by the Foundation. However, Mr. Adams agreed it would be best to wait until we discuss the matter with Mr. Lacy in light of what the Endowment would be able to do, and whether they would be amenable to a grant of this kind.

Mr. Ravanel and his crew are currently in Toronto, have worked out the designs for a number of the cases and installations. The problem now arises, what material these cases should be made of. If they are to come to Kansas City they should be made in a relatively durable way, rather than a more temporary style. Mr. Adams suggested that Marc Wilson call Mr. Ravanel at the National Gallery on Monday, and arrange if possible, to visit him in Washington.

Adams also recounted some of the great difficulties Toronto is having with the catalogue, since the Chinese disapproved of the one of which 25,000 copies have already been printed. He also commented that the most helpful information they have had so far came from Per-Olov Leijon.

Cable address:
FREER, Washington, D. C.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
FREER GALLERY OF ART
WASHINGTON, D. C., 20560

Area Code: 202
Telephone: 381-5344

June 27, 1974

Mr. Laurence Sickman, Director
William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Sickman:

This morning, Hin-cheung Lovell and I went to the National Gallery to attend the showing of slides and commentary. You remember this is the same presentation that was given regularly at the Royal Academy in conjunction with the Chinese archaeological exhibition.

I remember seeing the presentation when I was in London last December. It seemed a bit short then, and I have the same feeling about it now. In all, the program lasts 17 minutes and covers the history of China with slides used to illustrate important events. Approximately 70 percent of the slides are of objects included in the exhibition, although little if anything is said to identify them.

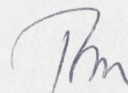
My own feeling is that the presentation could easily be expanded to include some discussion of the objects themselves. The fellow from the Royal Academy who presided over the program this morning at the National Gallery said he found that by limiting the showing to 17 minutes, school children did not grow fidgety. Well, I think an American audience would sit quietly for longer than 17 minutes if the slides were of good quality and the narration were informative.

The advantage of accepting the program as it now stands is that the Chinese have already approved the narration and slides twice. In addition to the London showing, the same program, in German, was given regularly in Vienna. If any changes were made in the slides and/or narration, presumably the Chinese would have to approve it again. That might take some time.

These are my immediate reactions to the program. I hope they are of some help to you.

With my best regards to you and Marc.

Sincerely,



Thomas Lawton
Assistant Director

More

Alex Lacy telephoned the afternoon of July 2nd, 1974.

None of the problems that he was waiting for have yet been resolved.

The Canadian catalogue has over 100 corrections by the Chinese. If they cannot use the Canadian catalogue they will fall back on the Vienna catalogue.

Pan-Am offered free of charge to transport the show from Toronto to Washington, to Kansas City, to Peking. The National Gallery said no, they wanted to pay from Toronto to Washington, because they did not want to share the credit with Pan Am as well as IBM.

The State Department is shifting the responsibility of the exhibition from Charles Hill to another agency under the jurisdiction of the Under-Secretary of Cultural Affairs, one that is concerned with museum exhibitions. There are two people concerned, one is Meredith Palmer, telephone 632 2800. The other he doesn't know, but he will bring us the name.

The State Department is skeptical or at least leery about having any lecturers connected with the exhibition in any part of the city during the show.

Mr. Lacy expects to be here Monday, July 8th. He will call on Friday the 5th and firm up his date and time. We are to get him a reservation at the Palza Inn for the night of the 8th.

Cap. Carr. Free

2nd July, 1974

Thomas Lawton, Esq.,
Assistant Director,
Freer Gallery of Art,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C. 20560

Dear Tom,

Many thanks for your helpful letter about the slide presentation. I, too, agree with you that one may err through too much brevity.

From the children I have seen around here, their attention tolerance is somewhat more than 17 minutes. Next time I am talking to Howard Adams or one of the people at the National Gallery I will see if perhaps we can borrow a copy of this for a quick review.

Apparently there is a terrible problem in getting Chinese approval for anything, but if the presentation can be improved with another 5 or 10 minutes, I would be willing to take the risk.

Marc has gone into the silence at home, working on a catalogue, but I will see him this evening and discuss your letter with him.

Were he here, he would join me in sending all the best.

Sincerely,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 12, 1974

Dr. Laurence Sickman, Director
Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Dr. Sickman:

Let me confirm our conversation of this afternoon regarding the layout of the Nelson Gallery's exhibition space. The Chinese urgently need to see the floor plans of the museums where the exhibit will be shown, including elevations of any raised exhibit areas. Since you have indicated that the exhibition area is level, we would appreciate it if you could state this in writing, as well as provide us with a more detailed description of the floor plan that we have seen, i.e. room dimensions, including height of ceilings, etc.

If you could send this information to us by Tuesday or Wednesday, it would expedite our communications with Peking. We must mail the materials by the end of the week. Thank you for your immediate cooperation in these matters.

I will notify you when we receive the information, and I hope that Peter Solmssen and I can be helpful in answering any questions that arise in your preparations for the exhibition. Please don't hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely,

Meredith A. Palmer
Arts Analyst
Division of the Advisor
on the Arts
Bureau of Educational and
Cultural Affairs

None

University of Missouri - Kansas City



5307 Holmes Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64110

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
Office of Research Administration

Telephone
816 276-1301

July 17, 1974

Dr. Laurence Sickman, Director
Nelson-Atkins Galleries of Art
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Dr. Sickman:

I must say that I was completely, although pleasantly, surprised to receive your letter of July 11, 1974. Your generosity and kind words are very much appreciated.

I trust that everything has gone well with plans for the exhibition and the NEH grant. It was indeed my pleasure to meet with you and to learn some of the details surrounding this fascinating situation before the announcement was made to the general public. My wife and I are both looking forward to having the opportunity to view this remarkable exhibit next summer. Please don't hesitate to call me if I can provide any further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ed Ellyson".

Edgar J. Ellyson
Manager, Research Grants

:nr

cc: Dean Herwig G. Zauchenberger

26th July, 1974

Jan Berris,
Associate Program Director of the
National Committee of the United States - China Relations,
777 United Nations Plaza,
New York, N.Y. 10017 Tel: 212 682 6848

Jan Berris called asking for a meeting of educators to plan the educational exploitation of the Exhibition. She requested a date of August 12th, which was impossible for L. Sickman. She is now considering a date early in September.

Mr. Sickman told Miss Berris that he would like to have Marc Wilson attend this meeting.

Aug 12 806 15TH ST. First Floor Conference Rm.

25th July, 1974

Charles Parkhurst called. Subject: shipping of the Chinese show from Washington to Kansas City. He stated that inasmuch as the Washington exhibition is being sponsored by IBM, they are not accepting the offer of Pan Am to deliver it from Toronto to Washington free of charge.

They are using Pan Am; however, but paying for the trip.

L. Sickman told him that in our conversations with Alex Lacy, the latter expressed the wish that our entire support come from the NEH rather than requesting any funds from IBM.

It was then Mr. Lacy's hope that Pan-Am would offer to bring the exhibition from Washington to Kansas City free of charge and then on from Kansas City to Peking under the same arrangement. Mr. Parkhurst said that he would transfer this information to officials of Pan-Am.

30th July, 1974

This morning, 10:30, L. Sickman telephoned Howard Adams, particularly because as an old Kansas Citian he understands the problems involved in the Jewel Ball.

Sickman enquired quite urgently from Adams whether there was any chance of the Chinese rescinding their earlier decision for extending the exhibition an additional three weeks. The telephone conversation was prompted by the first sentence in a letter from Carter Brown of July 24th, "This is to confirm word from the Department of State that the Chinese have refused to extend the exhibition by three weeks to cover shipping time from Washington to Kansas City."

Howard assured L.S. that so far as he could possibly tell, and he was confident that Hill would concur in his opinion, the exhibition would close on June 8th, and would not have an extension. This decision comes from very high levels in Peking. It is the Chinese view that the exhibition will be in America from the 2nd week of December and close the 8th of June, and how the National Gallery and the Nelson Gallery divided this time is entirely their own affair.

It is Mr. Adams opinion that we would be safe in designating the date of June 27th for the Jewel Ball rather than postpone it till the 11th of July.

31st July, 1974

None

Alex Lacy called Wednesday morning, July 31st. Returning L. Sickman's call of July 30th.

L. Sickman informed Mr. Lacy of the contents of Carter Brown's letter of July 24th establishing a new time schedule for both the National Gallery and the Nelson Gallery. Mr. Lacy expressed the hope that possibly it might be changed or the Chinese might alter their decision. L. Sickman repeated to him Mr. Adam's comment that he and Charles Hill felt that in this matter the Chinese were adamant.

L.S. asked Mr. Lacy if this would require changes in our budget, since the budget was based on a 60-day exhibition time. He said no, at this stage it might be better to let the budget stand, as we might simply not draw on them for funds which we did not use.

Mr. Lacy then brought to Mr. Sickman's attention the meeting to be held in Washington on August 12th, of the National Committee on U.S.-China relations. He told Mr. Lacy that he would not be able to attend, but that Marc Wilson would represent us, and Mr. Lacy seemed gratified.

Mr. Lacy concluded by saying that he would probably telephone both Howard Adams and Charles Hill and discuss the matter of schedule further with them, and possibly call L.S. back within the next day or so.

5th August, 1974

Reve

Dr. Patricia McIlrath, UMKC, called. Would like to work in a series of lectures on the Chinese theater if the exhibition is coming to Kansas City.

Since she has to make up her fall schedule as soon as possible, she should be notified the moment we have the green light.

L. Sickman suggested to Dr. McIlrath that she might get a grant in aid from NEH for a seminar on the Chinese theater, should the exhibition materialize.

Columbia University in the City of New York | New York, N.Y. 10027

DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Anneliese Gutkind Bulling
1903B Humphrey Merry Way
Lynnewood Gardens, Elkins Pk.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19117

November 5. 1974

Dear Prof. Sickman;

Allen Wardwell send me a copy of the letter he wrote to you about the Symposium. When I saw him two weeks ago in Asia House he had the glorious idea to ask you whether it could not be held in Kansas City. I think it would be an ideal place from a geographical as well as intellectual point of view.

This symposium has been a pet idea of me for quite a time. I think it was in 1972 that I proposed to arrange one to the ACLS but, unfortunately, Arthur Wright (for Prof. Turner) turned it down.

However, for nearly 25 years the People's Rep. of China has published such an avalanche of reports of archaeological excavations and research that hardly anybody has been able to keep track. I must confess, that, although I have translated a fairly large number of articles and monographs, perhaps more than most of my colleagues, except those of Chinese descent, I have covered only a small section. Except Cheng Te-k'ün and Kwang-chih Chang¹s who have written about the neolithic and Shang and Chou Periods none of us has published more than occasional papers or summary accounts. Moreover, just the last few years have added a considerable amount to the previous excavations, especially in the field of research.

The symposium, I hope, will fill some gaps in our knowledge. I think all participants should be asked to report on one or more excavations or research reported in Wen-wu, Kao-gu or Kaogu xuebao or in some monographs. I think invitations should go out to from 30 -50 people. Those among us who do not know enough Chinese could easily find a Chinese to translate an article for them and they could condense it into a short report.

A preparatory committee should be set up to sort out the proposed reports and to establish a balance between the various sections. As Allen wrote to you in the first meeting it was decided that the sections should be arranged according to historic periods. In a three days session all could be arranged in such a way that nobody has to forgo a session because he had to attend another one.

I think each participant should make his proposed report and that it then should be discussed by all participant under the guidance of a chairman. I am a little doubtful about panel discussions, too easily each one starts to ride his hobby horse and gets tedious- in our case - endless discussion on style or even worse on fakes.

About a month ago I was invited by Mac Gill University to give a lecture and to Toronto as consultant to Prof. Ursula Franklin who starts work on metallurgy for Needham. Thus I had opportunity to see the Chinese exhibition, I saw it shortly before in Paris at the time of the International Orientalist Congress. It is wonderful and I am told after Washington it will come to Kansas City.

Allen Wardwell told me that in Washington one was afraid and feared Chinese opposition to lectures or a symposium. I was surprised because in London and in Toronto there was a string of lectures and I met Nelson Wu with about 30 people.

I think the Chinese would welcome this sort of symposium because they want the people to know about their archaeological achievements. Thus it could perhaps be arranged during that time. In case you have any difficulties, please let me know I may be able to talk with some representatives in New York or in Washington. I was actually the first who was invited to China all by myself- not as a member of a group- last year in June and they gave me a wonderful time.

When I proposed the symposium to Mary-Anne Siegfried in Asia House in February I was very glad that she was interested and took the first step inviting a group of interested people to a discussion. Now that Allen has taken it into his hands we might be able to get it going- with your help-.

However, Asia House-with some justification- has decided that it would be wiser not to mention that it was my idea and that I am the driving force behind it. They fear that Professor Soper and some of his supporter would oppose it because of deep opposition to my work and me. This makee me feel very sad- and underdog-like- but it is the truth. However, I know that I can trust you completely.

With best wishes

Amundsen S.B.

12th November, 1974

Master Eddie Speer,
President,
Seventh Grade Unified Studies Class,
Nallwood Jr. High School,
9700 Woodson,
Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66207

Dear Master Speer,

The Nelson Gallery is deeply grateful to you and your group for your considerate letter of November 5th.

The exhibition of Archaeological Finds of the People's Republic of China will be the largest the Gallery has ever attempted, while the installation of so many splendid objects is in itself a problem of concern. In addition to this, the large public attendance we anticipate will undoubtedly strain our facilities. You may be sure, then, that we profoundly appreciate any offers of help.

For my own part I am very gratified to learn of your interest in the whole subject of China and the incredibly long and creative civilization of that country. There are several specialists on the Gallery staff and you may be sure that at the proper time we will do everything we can to inform your class about the exhibition and its significance in one of the great cultures of the world.

Because of its heavy attendance the exhibition has enjoyed elsewhere, it has proved not practical to have guided tours, however there are many other ways in which you might be of assistance. I would suggest that Mrs. Martha Harp get in touch with Mr. Larry Eikleberry, Director of our Education Department, who is working closely with us, and I am confident we will find the most satisfactory ways in which you may be of help to us.

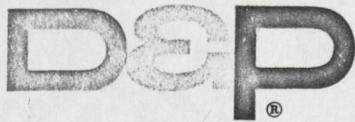
As the time for the exhibition draws near, we will be publishing a certain amount of material and securing posters and other illustrative aids, and I will see to it myself that your class is supplied with these.

Please convey our sincere thanks to all your members on behalf of myself and the Trustees for your welcome offer of assistance.

Cordially yours,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf



marc

Design and Production Incorporated

6001 FARRINGTON AVENUE, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22304

(703) 751-5150

January 22, 1975

Mr. Laurence Sickman
Director
William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Larry:

Thank you for your January 17 letter and your compliment on the Washington installation of the Chinese exhibition by Design and Production Incorporated.

We shall be delighted to have an opportunity to assist with your installation of the Chinese exhibition in Kansas City and look forward to hearing from you. We would very much appreciate as much advance notice of your requirements as possible.

My best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION INCORPORATED

Frank
Frank H. Hammond
Special Assistant for Museum Programs

FHH/fw

15.1.75

Mr. Laurence Pickman

Director.

William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art

Dear Mr. Pickman,

A brief acknowledgment of your cordial letter of 8th January — I go into hospital for some internal surgery tomorrow & shall be out of action for some time. My wife, however, will be here to hand on the books if occasion arises.

We are planning to revisit America as soon as I am fully mobile again, & will certainly endeavour to put Kansas City — so eminently demanding of a prolonged visit — on our itinerary. We appreciate your kind invitation.

With kindest regards
Yours sincerely Jack Miller

Office of
LAURENCE SICKMAN
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY OF ART

The William Rockhill Nelson Trust

ATKINS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

4325 OAK STREET

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64111

(816) 561-4000

UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES:
MILTON MCGREEVY
MENESEE D. BLACKWELL
HERMAN R. SUTHERLAND

20th January, 1975

Professor Max Loehr,
14 Loring Road,
Lexington, Mass. 02173

Dear Max,

Our essay team seems to be coming along very well. As I wrote you, Chang Kwang-chih at Yale will write on the early ages through Neolithic and up to Shang. Arthur Wright is composing an essay on the Golden Age of T'ang, Jan Fontein is writing on tomb figurines, which is one of his specialties, and you have so graciously consented to write on bronzes.

This material will not be used in the Gallery in direct association with the exhibition, because in that case it is more or less under Chinese supervision. It will, however, be used on a very broad distribution throughout the country. In rethinking the matter through it occurred to us that it might be just as well if these articles did not specifically center on the exhibition, but were considerably more general in nature, and say approximately 75% of the illustrative material could come from Western collections, with around 25% drawn from the People's Republic and in the exhibition. In this way the material would be of generally informative nature and not so specifically bearing on the exhibition that the Chinese officials would consider it an extension of the catalogue.

How does this appeal to you? If you have any questions don't hesitate to call me collect.

Every good wish.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY OF ART

The William Rockhill Nelson Trust

ATKINS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

4525 OAK STREET

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64111

(816) 561-4000

Office of
LAURENCE SICKMAN
DIRECTOR

UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES:
MILTON MCGREEVY
MENEFFEE D. BLACKWELL
HERMAN R. SUTHERLAND

24th January, 1975

Charles P. Parkhurst, Esq.,
Assistant Director,
National Gallery of Art,
6th St. and Constitution Avenue, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20565

Dear Charles,

Two matters which I hope will cause you no great time or inconvenience.

Mr. Menefee Blackwell, one of my three Trustees and an attorney, has been ill the past two months. Part of that time he was in touch with Mr. Eli Maurer, Assistant Legal Advisor for Education, Culture and Public Affairs in the Department of State. This concerned the matter of insurance on the Chinese exhibition, and the question of any legal claims there might be against the Gallery.

We would like to clarify all the details of this matter as soon as possible. My question to you is should we initiate correspondence with Mr. Maurer or is there someone in your own legal department at the National Gallery who would act in our behalf concerning insurance and liability. Just let me know the right person to address.

Item number two. Through Hallmark Cards we have secured the services of Robert Martin as Exhibition Co-ordinator, who will handle, we hope, a thousand details. He expects to be in Washington Thursday the 28th, and I very much hope you could spare him half an hour or so. I would deeply appreciate it, as no one in this country knows more about the intricacies of this matter than do you.

Marc joins me in sending every good wish.

Sincerely,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY OF ART

The William Rockhill Nelson Trust

ATKINS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

4525 OAK STREET

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64111

(816) 561-4000

January 24, 1975

Mr. W. T. Chase
Head Conservator
Freer Gallery of Art
Smithsonian Institution
Washington DC, 20560

Dear Tom:

Sorry to delay writing you. Larry Sickman has probably answered you long ago.

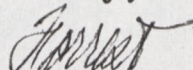
We would be happy to cooperate with you on any feasible project. However, as you may already know, before we could start planning, you would first have to contact the Chinese for permission. Any examination would involve an extension of contract, including an extension of packing time. We only have eight days at each end, and the National Gallery took fourteen to unpack and install.

I would guess you would want to examine the objects at the dismantling of the K.C. exhibit. Again, this would be entirely up to the Chinese, who are well known for their inflexible procedures.

Besides the problem of logistics, we do not have the equipment to suit your needs. Our conservation area is really a studio for the treatment of works of art, rather than a lab for scientific investigation. Our X-ray and shielding would be inadequate for your needs. We can get excellent results from panels and wood sculpture, but our little antique is not powerful enough to X-ray bronze. We can go over 90 KV, but we have to operate with only 5 mas. (We might be able to get 250 kilovolts). We do not have any photographic attachments for our American Optical Surgical Microscope. In spite of our lack of equipment, we would try to help you as best we can.

Frankly, we doubt the Chinese will allow you the time you need to examine the bronzes. When Marc Wilson and I were observing the installation of the CAT Exhibit at the National Gallery, we noticed your absence. You would be more than welcome to be an observer when we install the show. If you want to handle the objects, you could become a temporary member of our staff and help Marc unwrap the pieces before he hands them to me for "official inspection." (This is quite a ritual. Only Vic Covey and four others could touch the objects while at the National Gallery.) Marc would not be able to work you into his budget for the Show, but maybe the Freer could find a way to finance it. If you are interested in this possibility, you could contact Marc about it.

Sincerely,



Forrest R. Bailey

27th January, 1975

Roger Bluett, Esq.,
Bluett and Sons, Ltd.,
48, Davies Street,
London W1Y 1Ld, England.

Dear Roger,

Alas, once again I am compelled to call on you for help.

The Gallery has recently received as a gift what appears to be the only complete early printing of the Ten Bamboo Studio. The books were sent to England for examination and evaluation by Jack Hillier, who did a remarkably fine job for us. Indeed there are very few people who are knowledgeable in the field of early Chinese woodblock prints.

Mr. Hillier must go into hospital soon for an operation, and I am taking the liberty of asking his wife if she could leave the books with you. I believe Mr. and Mrs. Myron Falk are planning a trip to London at the time of the O.C.S. jade show, and possibly they could pick the books up at your gallery and bring them back. I do hope this is not an inconvenience to you, but frankly I believe that Mr. Hillier would feel more at ease if they were deposited with you.

I had planned to accompany the Falks to London, but unfortunately we are so completely occupied with preparations for the great Chinese Archaeological show coming to our Gallery in the spring, that I will have no opportunity to travel until the exhibition has come and gone.

With expressions of gratitude and every good wish.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

27th January, 1975

Jack Hillier, Esq.,
Hillcrest,
27, Whitepost Hill,
Redhill,
Surrey, England.

Dear Mr. Hillier,

I am very sorry to learn that it is necessary for you to undergo some surgery and I must sincerely hope that you will soon find yourself quite recovered.

I do hope the Chinese books are not on your mind. Would it be a great inconvenience if your wife could, on her next visit to London, take them to Roger Bluett? Bluetts have in the past been kind enough to ship things for us, and in this case I believe some friends of mine who are great ceramic collectors, Mr. and Mrs. Myron Falk, will be visiting London shortly. They are great friends of Roger Bluett's, and possibly they can bring the books back to this country.

Again I must tell you how grateful we are for all the time and study you devoted to the prints on our behalf. You may be sure it will be a great pleasure for us to welcome you and Mrs. Hillier in Kansas City, and I much hope that in the not too far future I will have the opportunity of showing you through our collections.

With every good wish.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

C
O
P
Y

None

27th January, 1975

Frank H. Hammond, Esq.,
Special Assistant for Museum Programs,
D & P,
6001 Farrington Avenue,
Alexandria, Va. 22304

Dear Frank,

C I feel confident that before the Chinese
exhibition opens at the Nelson Gallery, your
concern can be of great help to us. At the
moment I have only a question. As you know,
the National Gallery has made most effective
O use of large photo murals, some of which we will
certainly need for our own exhibition.

I am now writing to ask what would be the
D & P rate per square foot for photo murals
developed from negatives which we would supply.

P I believe the mounting would be done here,
so we would only require the enlargements. We
would like to know, however, as soon as possible
at what rate your firm could supply graphic
material of this kind.

With every good wish.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence Sickman
Director

Y
LS:jf

More
have back

WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY OF ART

The William Rockhill Nelson Trust

ATKINS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

4525 OAK STREET

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64111

(816) 561-4000

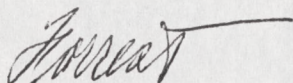
January 27, 1975

Ms. Phoebe Dent Weil
Box 1105
Washington University
St. Louis, Missouri 63130

Dear Phoebe:

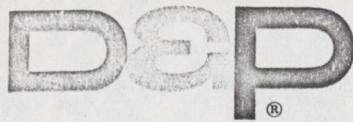
Marc Wilson has just reviewed his budget, and has found that we have already overextended our allotment for the CAT show. We do not have the funds to bring you here for the installation. Needless to say, I am very disappointed at this turn of events. I am sorry to let you (and us) down, but the budget limitations are out of our control.

My best to you,



Forrest R. Bailey
Resident Conservator

FRB-bk



Design and Production Incorporated

6001 FARRINGTON AVENUE, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22304 (703) 751-5150

January 31, 1975
K-4353

Mr. Laurence Sickman, Director
William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Larry:

Thank you for your January 27th letter.

The D&P rate per square foot for photomurals developed from negatives which you would supply is Black and White - \$3.25 and Sepia - \$4.30, F.O.B. Alexandria, Virginia. As you know on large photomurals of this type color matching between adjacent panels is extremely critical. We have worked out paper and chemical combinations to meet the exceedingly exacting requirements of the National Gallery of Art, and our estimates reflect this concern for superior quality. If your requirements call for a duplication of the sizes and quantities of photomurals used by the National Gallery, there will also be a charge of \$300 which includes inspection and handling. Shipping charges to be determined would be additional.

Marc Wilson has asked for the additional estimates below.

For the D&P labor at National Gallery to assist in dismantling
the Chinese Exhibition:

Hourly Rate: Straight - \$15.30
Overtime - \$19.96

For the D&P art production personnel to assist in mounting Chinese
Exhibition at the Nelson Gallery:

Per Diem Rate: Per person \$35 plus cost of travel

FROM *Design and Production Incorporated*

Mr. Laurence Sickman

-2-

January 31, 1975

If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

My best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION INCORPORATED

Frank H. Hammond

Frank H. Hammond

Special Assistant for Museum Programs

FHH/fw

Done

3rd February, 1975

Frank H. Hammond, Esq.,
Special Assistant for Museum Programs,
D & P,
6001 Farrington Avenue,
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

Dear Frank,

Only a note to thank you for your letter of January 31st, K-4353. The information you give us regarding the cost of photomurals and salary rates will be most helpful to us.

Doubtless you will hear from us in the not too far future.

With every good wish.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

Memorandum on telephone call from Alex Lacy, Thursday, March 13th, 1975.

On Monday, March 17th, in the afternoon, D'Argencé arrives from San Francisco via TWA flight 152 at 1:07 pm.

The same day, at 2:15 pm, Alex Lacy and Miss Englander arrive on Braniff flight 127.

All will depart for Washington at 6:00 pm.

Norman Runkles telephoned from the State Department, Thursday, March 13th.

He said that the State Department will pay the health and accident insurance premiums for the Chinese curators. There is just a little paper to sign.

He is sending us a memorandum on guide lines to grant provisions. Sub-paragraph 7 relates to sub-contracting responsibilities and in his opinion it does not apply in the present instance.

ASIAN ART MUSEUM OF SAN FRANCISCO
THE AVERY BRUNDAGE COLLECTION

GOLDEN GATE PARK, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94118

Yvon d'Argencé
Director and Chief Curator

March 24, 1975

Mr. Lawrence Sickman
Director
Wm. Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

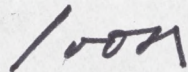
Dear Larry:

Thank you for taking such good care of me last week. It was very generous of you to give me so much of your time, despite the tremendous pressure that is on you. Thanks to you, this trip was extremely valuable. I believe I now have a fairly good idea of what to expect and what not to expect.

I am looking forward to receiving samples of the publicity and interpretive material that you have put together. It would also be helpful if you could provide me with the names of the printers for each article, including the catalogue.

Again, with many thanks to you and Mark, I am

Cordially,



Yvon d'Argencé

d'A:nm

764-2961



REGIONAL MOTORS & TRUCKS

12/16/61



10th April, 1975.

Mr. Laurence Sickman,
Director,
William Rockhill Nelson
Gallery of Art,
4525 Oak Street,
Kansas City, Missouri 64111,
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Sickman,

I hope your exhibition of works of art from the People's Republic of China is a great success. I have long entertained the wish to visit Kansas City to see your museum and it seems that I shall have the opportunity on my return from New York on April 29th or 30th.

Gerald Godfrey has just returned from the United States and he told me how much he enjoyed seeing you in Kansas City. Can you kindly drop me a line at either one of the hotels and let me know if you will be in Kansas City.

April 14th-19th Beverley Wilshire Hotel
9500 Wilshire Boulevard
Beverly Hills, California 90212
Telephone: (213) 275-4282

OR

April 22nd-29th The Plaza
Fifth Avenue at 59th Street
New York, New York 10019
Telephone: (212) 759-3000

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Miss) Kai-Yin Lo,
Assistant to the General Manager.

KYL/ka

BURD
FLETCHER
Creative Printing Engineers



Marc
Scrapbook

Wm. F. Navran
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

April 18, 1975

Mr. Larry Sickman
NELSON GALLERY OF ART
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Larry:

I have your very nice letter; and we are all very pleased with the recognition that you have given us for the work, and for the Kansas City Star ad, as well.

It has been a most gratifying experience; and I personally am not only happy with the results, but with the wonderful friends which we have at the Gallery.

Kindest regards,

W. F. Navran
Wm. F. Navran
First Vice President

WFN/cac



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

Copy to mare

CAT
File

APR 28 1975

Mr. Laurence Sickman
Director
William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art
Atkins Museum of Fine Arts
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Mr. Sickman:

You, the trustees and staff of the Nelson Gallery should be proud to have brought about such a successful start to the Chinese Exhibition in Kansas City; I congratulate you. I appreciate being included in the festivities that inaugurated this important event, and I look forward to the contribution that this Mid-Western showing will make toward improving understanding between the people of the United States and those of the People's Republic of China. Your fine installation and informative educational publications reflect the Nelson Gallery's expertise and creativity and will certainly illuminate this impressive exhibition for large numbers of Americans. The Department particularly appreciates the professional manner in which you handled this important and sensitive task.

Sincerely,

W. H. Gleysteen, Jr.

William H. Gleysteen, Jr.
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of East Asian Affairs

Marc,
Mr. S. said to give to you -
J.H.

*(due to arrive
Apr 29, or 30.)*

23rd April, 1975

Miss Kai-Yin Lo,
The Plaza,
5th Avenue at 59th Street,
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Miss Lo,

Do pardon the delay in answering your letter of the 10th, but I have scarcely been in my office the past two weeks while we were installing the Chinese Exhibition.

I am delighted to learn that there is a possibility of your visiting us. Unfortunately I will have to leave early in the afternoon of the 30th, but I shall be here the 29th. Should it not be possible for you to come until the 30th, please let me know and I will make arrangements for you to be taken through the exhibition without standing in line.

Your friends in Kansas City remember your many kindnesses to us in Hong Kong and how much you did to make our stay at the Mandarin agreeable in every way. I do hope I will have the opportunity of seeing you when you are here.

With every good wish.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

MEMORANDUM

April 28, 1975

To: Staff

From: Chinese Exhibition Office

Subject: "Music for a Thousand Autumns"

In honor of the Chinese Exhibition, the Kansas ^{City} Philharmonic, under Maestro Maurice Peress, will perform a selection of 8th century Chinese music this week.

This selection, called "Music for a Thousand Autumns," is a reconstruction of a birthday ode first performed in China in 728. It is being added to the Philharmonic's regular program which will include works by Faure, Bloch, Tchaikovsky, and Prokofiev.

The performance at the Music Hall on Tuesday night begins at 8 p.m., and Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. An additional performance will be at the Plaza Theatre, Thursday afternoon matinee.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

Department of Art History
108 Jones Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

30 April 1975

Laurence Sickman, Director
Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Larry:

Ms. Vera Sun, a former student of mine who currently serves in a curatorial capacity at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts will be visiting Kansas City to see the Chinese Exhibition on May 1st and 2nd. Her special interest is in Chinese Art and I would greatly appreciate any special consideration which you might give to her during what must be a very hectic time for you and all of your staff.

Incidentally I will be in Kansas City on May 16, 17, and 18 with a few students from my classes, a more general University group and a third party from the Minnesota Museum. I wonder if you would have time to get together and chat for a while on any of those days?

I look forward to seeing you then-

Best regards,

Bob Poor
Department of Art History

RP:jf

CONFIDENTIAL

STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRY RELATING TO BOMB THREAT-4/30/75

At 1 p.m. today (Wednesday, April 30), a bomb threat was received at the Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum. Using pre-established search procedures, a complete inspection was made of the gallery, and nothing out-of-the-ordinary was found. Visitors were stopped at the front door for a short time, and following the inspection, regular admittance was resumed.

(Because of the "triggering" nature of such threats, the Nelson Gallery and the Kansas City Police Department are requesting the cooperation of all news media in receiving and utilizing this information with as little emphasis as possible and in a manner consistent with professional journalistic practices.)

#####

Wilson

ASIAN ART MUSEUM OF SAN FRANCISCO
THE AVERY BRUNDAGE COLLECTION

GOLDEN GATE PARK, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94118

Yvon d'Argence
Director and Chief Curator

May 1, 1975

Mr. Mai Ying-hao
c/o Wm. Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Mr. Mai:

It was a great pleasure to see you and your colleagues in Kansas City at the time of the opening celebrations of the great exhibition "Archaeological Finds of The People's Republic of China".

We are actively working on the preparation of the San Francisco showing of this exhibition and it would help us very much at this point if you could authorize the authorities of the Nelson Gallery to send us the negatives of the photomurals and of the auxiliary materials (F numbers). We would like to start on this phase of the operation as soon as possible as it always takes some time to obtain enlarged prints.

Mr. Hsieh confirmed that you will be in San Francisco in the near future and we are all very much looking forward to this visit.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Yvon d'Argence

d'A:ih

✓ BC: Lawrence Sickman



CROWN CENTER HOTEL

One Pershing Road, Kansas City, Mo. 64108, (816) 474-4400, Cable "Westhotels"

May 7, 1975

Ms. Jean Drotts
Nelson Gallery - Atkins Museum
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Jean:

Thank you for sharing Volume II of the Gallery's handbook with us. We are returning it to you.

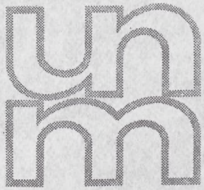
We have found it most enjoyable and informative. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Barbara Harlow
Director of Public Relations

BH:mr

Enclosure



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO | ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87106

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
TELEPHONE 505: 277-2405

May 8, 1975

Dr. Laurence Sickman
Nelson Gallery
45th and Oak Streets
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Dr. Sickman:

I am planning to be in Kansas City to see the exhibition from Mainland China on May 21st and would like very much to purchase some slides of the exhibit if they are available.

I am also interested in seeing your permanent collection of Asian Art since I've not previously visited your gallery. Will this be possible if I stay over through the 22nd?

Thirdly, would it be possible to speak with you briefly on either of these days? My field is philosophy (aesthetics, Chinese, metaphysics) but I have recently ventured into art history and now also teach a course in Chinese and Japanese art history at the University of New Mexico. I would very much appreciate some advice from you concerning certain reference materials if your schedule would permit seeing me (no longer than a half hour). We will be staying at the Plaza Inn and I will contact your secretary when I arrive to see if you can arrange this. If not, I would in any event appreciate knowing in advance whether slides are available and whether we will be able to see the permanent collection.

Sincerely yours,

Audrey Joseph
Assistant Professor

G. P. O. BOX 3566
SAN JUAN
PUERTO RICO 00936

May 7, 1975

Mr. Lawrence Sickman
Nelson Gallery
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Mo. 64111

Dear Larry:

I do sincerely hope that the Chinese Exhibit has been a smashing success. I am only sorry that I did not alert my office in Kansas City to send me newspaper clippings.

I know you are looking forward to your picnic in Colorado. I intend to visit the museum on the 18th, a Sunday, but if I thought that the permanent Oriental rooms were closed that day for whatever reason, I would probably not come. Therefore, if by any chance they are closed that Sunday, I wonder if your secretary could drop me a line so as to reach me no later than May 16 at the following address:

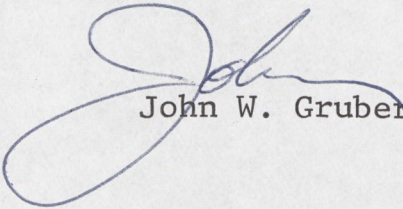
Mr. John W. Gruber
La Quinta Hotel (19 miles
from Palm Springs)
California

This is a strange address I must admit. Alternatively she may telephone me at the hotel and reverse the charges. Of course, if the rooms are open, there is no need to communicate at all.

Please forgive this very short notice, but I think of all of these things in my sleep at the last minute.

Best regards to you and Marc.

Sincerely,



John W. Gruber

12th May, 1975

Miss Audrey Joseph,
Department of Philosophy,
The University of New Mexico,
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

Dear Miss Joseph,

Although I will probably be very much occupied on the 21st since I am leaving on the 22nd for Los Angeles, it would be a great pleasure to meet you and discuss your interests.

There are a certain number of slides available at the Sales Desk, and probably you could make arrangements for a limited number of others through Mr. Marc Wilson, the Gallery's Curator of Oriental Art.

If we can be of any assistance to you when you arrive, please contact me by telephone from the desk at the North Door.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

*Leave
pull this
out on May 21 ✓
for reference*

Done

12th May, 1975

John W. Gruber, Esq.,
La Quinta Hotel (19 miles
from Palm Springs),
California 92262

C Dear John,

We are, of course, delighted to learn that you plan to visit the Gallery, but both Marc and I are profoundly distressed that we will be away.

O The permanent Oriental collections will be open from 2:00 to 6:00 on Sunday, but the Chinese Exhibition will be open from 10:00 to 2:00 for special visitors, so if you wish to come earlier, you may certainly do so.

P To avoid queuing up may I suggest that you come in the West Door, the staff entrance, the address of which is 4525 Oak. There you will find a ticket and a catalogue with our compliments. From the West Door we will have someone direct you to the security office in the great hall on the first floor. The police there will be alerted of your coming, will supply you with a visitor's badge, and will take you into the Exhibition without delay. This procedure is important because otherwise you may have a wait of an hour or more. The Exhibition is unbelievably popular.

Y In the permanent exhibition you will notice that your superb Japanese Buddhist triptich is not on exhibition for the reason that it is resting up in the cool and darkness of the storerooms to avoid over-exposure. It is a marvellous painting of brilliant condition, and should only be shown periodically, in the best Japanese manner.

Marc joins me in sending all of the best and expressing the hope that we will see you here again in the not too far future.

Sincerely,

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf

The Chinese Exhibition

The Exhibition of Archaeological Finds of the People's Republic of China

The William Rockhill Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum of Fine Arts

April 20th to June 8th, 1975

中華人民共和國出土文物展覽

WORKING GROUP
OF THE
EXHIBITION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS
OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

ITINERARY: San Francisco

FRIDAY, MAY 16:

Messrs. Mai, Keng, Yu and Friesner:

Breakfast at lodgings

7:30 AM

Depart from Plaza Inn in Mr.
Friesner's car for KCI

8:15

Arrive KCI

9:00

TWA # 471 departs KCI for San
Francisco

11:46

Arrive San Francisco International
Airport. Welcomed by members of
the staff of the Asian Art Museum
of San Francisco. Collect baggage.

12:15 PM

Leave Airport for hotel.

1:00

Arrive Canterbury Hotel
524 Sutter

At this time the rest of the schedule is unplanned.

The group plans to return to KCI on a plane from
San Francisco late Sunday, May 18.

WORKING GROUP
OF THE

The Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum, Telephone 816-561-4000
4525 Oak Street Kansas City, Missouri 64111

May 29, 1975

Sherwood Songer

I am returning 3 requisitions made out to Laurence Sickman covering expenses for the Chinese Curators. Each requisition is a duplicate.

Req. #3515 - \$500.00	see requisition #3250
3516 - \$700.00	3253
3519 - \$700.00	3254

Requisitions 3250, 3 and 4 were processed by us earlier.

Thanks,

Leigh

cc: Ross Taggart
cc: Marc Wilson

File

4th June, 1975

Directive to all Staff Members and Employees

From Laurence Sickman

Subject: Identification Badges

All identification badges for the Chinese Exhibition that have been issued through the Security Office to staff and employees must be returned to the Security Office no later than 9:00 pm Sunday, June 8th.

Those staff members and employees who will not be working on the last day of the Exhibition or the day previous will turn in their identification badges on their last working day prior to Sunday the 8th.

For those persons authorized to work in the Exhibition area during the dismantling, a list of names will be supplied to the Security Office and the necessary identification will be issued them on Monday morning.

It is essential that all staff members and employees who have been issued identification badges by the Security Office should comply with this directive.

Laurence Sickman
Director

LS:jf



ONE PERSHING ROAD
KANSAS CITY, MO. 64108
TELEPHONE (816) 474-4400

June 9, 1975

Mr. Laurence Sickman
Director
Nelson Gallery - Atkins Museum
4525 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Mr. Sickman:

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to you for making possible the display in the Crown Center Hotel lobby of the four art objects from the Nelson Gallery's permanent Chinese collection while the Chinese Exhibition was here in Kansas City.

It is our feeling that this display attracted much attention, stirred interested in, and alerted many to the fact that the exhibit was open to them.

Again, Mr. Sickman, my thanks to you for sharing these beautiful pieces with us and our many guests.

Sincerely,

James E. Durham

JED:mr

cc: Mr. Marc Wilson
Curator of the Oriental Collection



WESTERN INTERNATIONAL HOTELS
Partners in travel with United Air Lines